

# ReFED Food Waste Funders Initiative

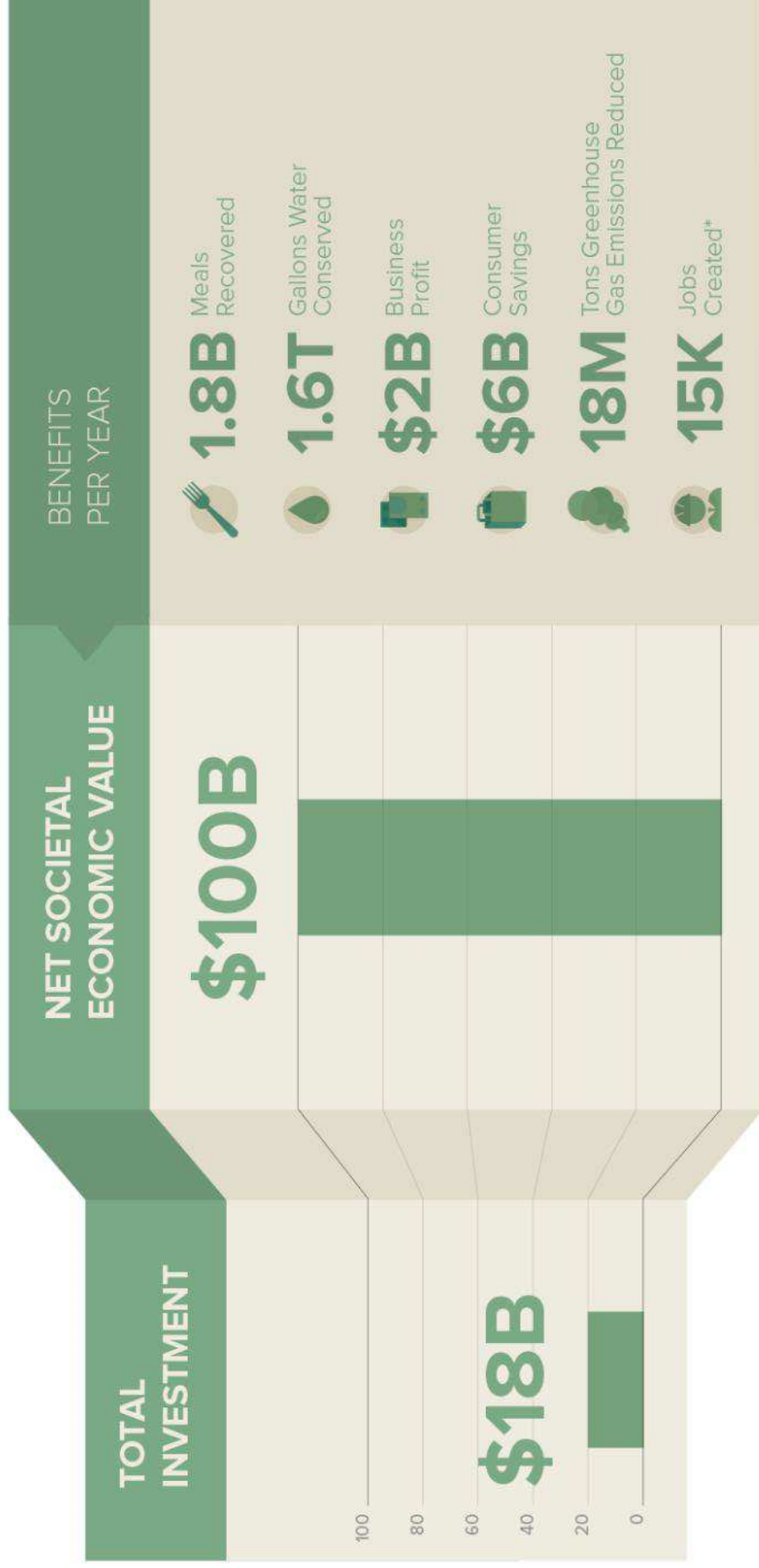
December 7, 2017



**ReFED**

**Rethink Food Waste**  
*Through Economics & Data*

# AN \$18 BILLION INVESTMENT IN 27 SOLUTIONS TO REDUCE U.S. FOOD WASTE BY 20% WILL YIELD \$100 BILLION IN SOCIETAL ECONOMIC VALUE OVER A DECADE

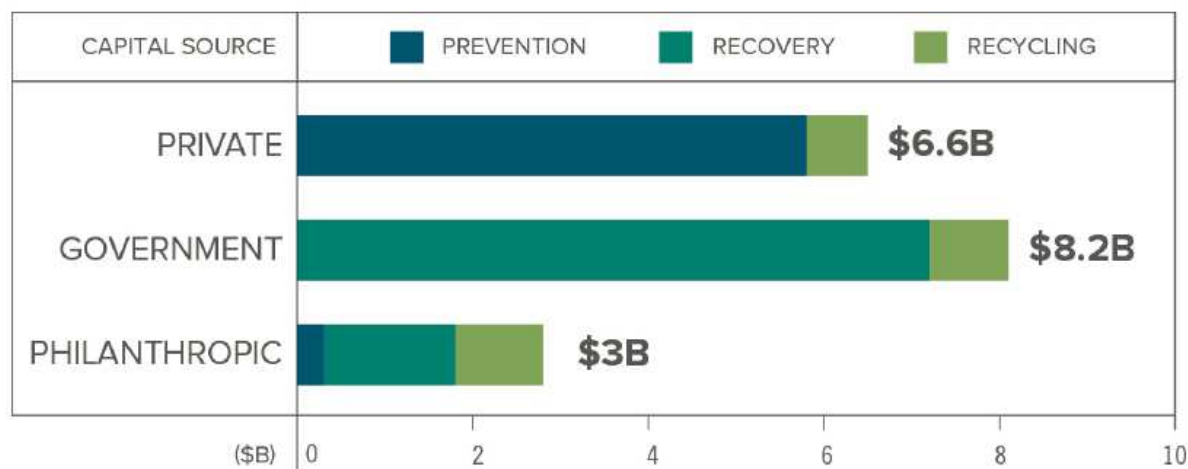


# The Food Waste Financing Gap

***\$18 billion investment is needed to reduce food waste by 20% over the next decade.***

- Resources available today do not match the scale of this problem.
- In 2015, <\$200 million in funding is estimated across PE/VC, project finance and impact investments (<\$150 million) and philanthropy (<\$25 million).

*FINANCING NEEDS FOR 20% REDUCTION IN  
FOOD WASTE OVER A DECADE*



# ReFED's Foundation Action Guide Insights

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**Need:** \$300 million annually in philanthropic and impact investments

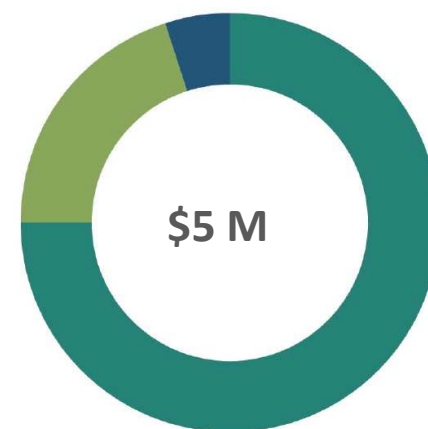
## Current Philanthropic Baseline:

- Between 2012-2014 an estimated ~\$5 million per year directed toward food waste related initiatives
- \$50 million directed toward tangentially related initiatives (i.e. community gardens, food banks)
- Estimate current funding level is \$15-20 million
- Average grant size <\$30,000
- <5% of funding for prevention solutions

## Filling the Gap:

- Education to foundations and impact investors
- Building local, organizational capacity
- Focus on impact investing for prevention related solutions

ANNUAL GRANT FUNDING  
TOWARD FOOD WASTE  
INITIATIVES (2014)



- 75% toward **Recovery**
- 20% toward **Recycling**
- <5% toward **Prevention**

**The Fink and Hoch Families, with support from ReFED and Brown Advisory, hosted two events in Boston, MA on Tuesday, October 31<sup>st</sup>, successfully raising the profile of food waste solutions with local funders.**

***Food Waste Innovation Field Trip***

- Eighteen funders, representing a range of foundations and private investment firms, joined nine organizing party members and three innovators at Daily Table to learn about different food recovery models operating in the Boston area. The group toured Daily Table and also heard presentations from Lovin' Spoonfuls and Spoiler Alert. We learned about a variety of emerging approaches to food recovery.

***Food Waste Funders Lunch***

- Following the field trip, sixteen funders traveled to Brown Advisory to further discuss food waste funding opportunities. Lazy Bear, Regained, and Barnana were highlighted with the meal, providing funders a taste of new consumer food products created from excess food. During lunch, Emily Broad Leib and John Fischer presented on the national and Massachusetts policy landscapes. We walked the walk and made this a zero waste event with left overs shared with staff, delivered to Boston Rescue Mission, a local shelter, and all inedible scraps collected by Bootstrap Compost. We fueled a growing interest among philanthropic and private funders, both in food waste and a Boston peer community around the topic. Everyone is excited for the June conference.